

## JAMES STACY MURDOCK

James Stacy Murdock, son of Joseph Stacy and Elizabeth Hunter Murdock, was born December 8, 1861, at American Fork, Utah. His parents moved the family to Heber, Wasatch County, Utah, in 1862, where he lived a full life.

As a young man, he and his brother, Alva M., built and managed the first livery stable in Heber. They operated a freight line between Heber and the Uintah Basin



and carried the U. S. mail between Heber and Park City, Utah.

James always was a man of industry and foresight, an ardent sportsman and a builder for his community, as well as for himself. He was known throughout the West as one of its most prominent stockmen and wool-growers. Many people were employed in his various interests. He was civic-minded to the extent that at times he bore the expense of promoting issues he believed to be for the public good. The retaining of the Heber Light & Power Company for the community, being an example. The people of the city were about to sell the plant to the Utah Light & Power Company when he and his life-long friend, James W. Clyde, hired an electrical engineer to prove to the community what a valuable asset they possessed. The company is still owned by the city.

James played baseball, hunted and fished as hobbies, and being an ardent lover of horses, he bred and raced standard-bred horses for a time.

He held many public offices during his lifetime. He was elected sheriff in 1891, serving eight years. From 1893 to 1901 he held the position of County Fish and Game Commissioner. He was a director of the Bank of Heber City many years.

He married Dora Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Johanna Kirstine Nicol, on February 23, 1882, in the Salt Lake Endowment House. To this couple two sons and six daughters were born: Mrs. Charles E. (Josephine) Bronson, Alva Pierce, Curtis Thomas, Mrs. Thomas (Criss) Jones, Mrs. Lester D. (May) Greenwood, Mrs. Andrew J. (Hope) Mohr, Mrs. Durrel T. (Clara) Burningham, and Mrs. Eldon (Beth) Ritchie.

During the later part of her life, Dora

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was an invalid. The loving care James conferred on her and the children lives in the memory of his family and friends. She passed away on October 29, 1907.

2 On February 27, 1913, James married Violet McNiven, daughter of James and Lydia McNiven. She died May 25, 1933.

James was a big, genial man, a good friend and neighbor, always ready to contribute time and money to any worthy cause.

He passed away in Salt Lake City, January 12, 1936, and was buried in the family plot in Heber City Cemetery.

## JOSEPH R. MURDOCK

The name of Hon. Joseph R. Murdock of Charleston and Heber City is synonymous with the development of irrigation interests in the West. He has contributed to public progress along various lines and in no field have his labors been more far-reaching and resultant than in behalf of the reclamation of the arid lands through the conservation and distribution of the water supply of this section of the country. Mr. Murdock's efforts in this connection alone entitle him to rank not only with the cap-

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tains of industry, but with the benefactors of the race. The story of his life is an interesting one—the record of earnest endeavor crowned with successful achievement.

Mr. Murdock was born in Salt Lake City, August 11, 1858, his parents being N. C. and Sarah M. (Barney) Murdock. In 1864, N. C. Murdock removed to Charleston, Wasatch County, Utah.

Joseph R. Murdock was reared to young manhood upon his father's farm and was educated in the schools of Charleston, supplemented by study in the Brigham Young Academy, now the Brigham Young University. In 1872 he became associated with his father in farming and stock raising and carried on the business extensively. They also established the first creamery in Charleston and further extended the scope of their activities. They opened a general merchandise store in 1875, their trade steadily growing into a business which was incorporated in 1890, at which time Joseph R. Murdock was elected the manager of the enterprise.

There is no man more widely or favorably known as a representative of the irrigation interests of the West. He has done more beyond a doubt to further irrigation than has any other one man in the state of Utah, or perhaps in the West. He organized the Provo Reservoir Company, of which he is president. This project now supplies water to 10,000 acres of land and

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has sufficient water for 10,000 acres additional. The project was developed at a cost of a million dollars. The main office of the company is in the Knight Building at Provo. Mr. Murdock also is the president of the Bank of Heber City, which does a business amounting to one-half million dollars annually, and he is the president of the Sugar Centrifugal Discharging Company of Salt Lake City, manufacturers of sugar machinery and employing about 30 men.

In 1878, Mr. Murdock was married to Miss Margaret Wright, a daughter of William and Jemima (Dands) Wright. They became parents of 11 children.

In 1903, Mr. Murdock removed with his family to Heber and was there, in 1905, called to the presidency of the Wasatch Stake, which he has since filled. In politics, Mr. Murdock is a Democrat and was a staunch supporter of President Wilson and his League of Nations policy. He served three terms as county commissioner of Wasatch County and was a member of the constitutional convention. He was also a member of the lower house of the Utah Legislature during the first and second sessions of the general assembly, and in the fall of 1900 he was elected state senator. During that session he was the father of the dairy bill, which was enacted into law and he served on many important committees. He gave most earnest and thoughtful consideration to all the vital questions which came up for settlement during his legislative career, and left the impress of his individuality and ability upon the assembly enactments. He still owns and maintains his home in Heber and also, because of his business relations there, he has a home in Provo, he and his family dividing their time between the two cities.

The life record of Joseph R. Murdock is indeed a creditable one. His life has been actuated by high purposes and earnest endeavor, productive of splendid results, and among Utah's most useful and honored citizens Joseph R. Murdock is named.